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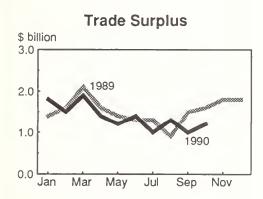


C. 2

U.S. Agricultural Trade Update

Economic Research Service U.S. Department of Agriculture

December 20, 1990



Agricultural Trade Surplus Rises in October - The agricultural trade surplus rose \$166 million from the previous month to \$1.2 billion as export growth outpaced imports. The cumulative farm trade surplus for January-October 1990 totaled \$13.6 billion, \$900 million below the same period a year ago.

Agricultural Exports Higher in October - U.S. agricultural exports rose more than \$300 million to \$3 billion in October. Led by a 28 percent increase in horticultural product exports, rising commodities also included soybeans, tobacco, live animals, meat, and rice. Wheat exports fell \$73 million, and corn and cotton exports fell slightly.

However, exports were \$300 million lower than a year earlier in October. Reduced soybean exports accounted for most of this decline. While slightly higher than September, October 1990 soybean shipments were the lowest for any October since the 1960's.

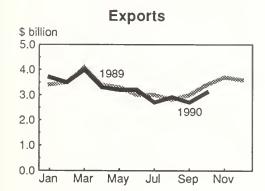
October's wheat exports fell \$73 million from September as export volume fell 530,000 tons and the export unit value fell below \$120 per ton for the first time since mid-1988. China was the largest single U.S. customer in October, receiving 341,000 tons, while Algeria and Egypt together received 416,000 tons. Other important customers included Japan, Pakistan, Peru, Korea, and the Philippines. There were no wheat shipments to the Soviet Union in October for the third consecutive month.

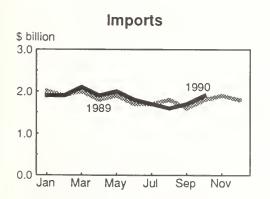
The volume of *corn* exports rose slightly in October, but prices fell slightly. Exports totaled 2.7 million tons, with Japan--the largest customer--accounting for about one-third of the total. Exports to the Soviet Union resumed, but barely exceeded 100,000 tons. During

October 1989, nearly 1 million tons of U.S. corn was shipped to the Soviet Union, but shipments in 1990 have been negligible since June. Besides Japan, other significant markets during October 1990 included Taiwan--accounting for 334,000 tons--Mexico and Egypt--each receiving more than 200,000 tons. October's corn export unit value fell to \$110 per ton from \$117 per ton in September, but remained higher than 12 months earlier.

Agricultural Imports Rise in October - U.S. agricultural imports rose 9 percent in October to just over \$1.9 billion. Increases in fruits and vegetables, coffee, meat, and other products more than offset decreases in sugar and tobacco. (Stephen A. MacDonald, 202-219-0822)

Major Markets - Japan was the largest single market for U.S. agricultural exports in FY 1990, as it has been every year since the early 1960's. Exports to Japan even exceeded exports to all of Western Europe combined, which totaled \$7.3 billion. Canada became the second largest market in FY 1990 as revised procedures for reporting trade data eliminated undercounting. Before January 1990 nearly 40 percent of all U.S.agricultural exports to Canada went unreported, resulting in a lower rank for Canada in FY 1989. Had undercounting been eliminated in FY 1989, Canada would have ranked second rather than fifth. Other significant year-to-year shifts in rank among the top 15 were advances by Hong Kong and Saudi Arabia, and Iraq's decline from 12th to 16th. U.S. agricultural exports to Iraq totaled \$497 million in FY 1990 before ending with the U.N. embargo, compared with \$791 million in FY 1989.





Monthly supplement to Foreign Agricultural Trade of the United States.

Approved by the World Agricultural Outlook Board

	January-October				October				
Commodity group and unit	Thousand	Units	\$ Thous	sands	Thousand	units	\$ Thou	isands	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	
Total agricultural exports (NA) Animals and animal products (NA) Animals live - excl poultry (NA) Cattle and calves - live (NO) Norses, mules, burros-live (NO) Swine - live (NO) Swine - live (NO) Sheep and lambs, live (NO) Other live animals (NA) Meats and meat products (MT) Beef and veal - fresh or froz (MT) Beef and veal - fresh or froz (MT) Pork and fresh or froze (MT) Pork - prepor pres (MT) Pork - prep or pres (MT) Variety meats - fresh or prep (MT) Poultry and poultry products (NA) Poultry - live (NA) Baby chicks (NO) Other live poultry (NA) Poultry mate (MT) Chickens - fresh or froz (MT) Turkeys - fresh or froz (MT) Turkeys - fresh or froz (MT) Poultry meats - prep or pres (MT) Feathers and downs, crude (MT) Eggs (NA) Dairy products (NA) Evap & condensed milk (MT) Nonfat dry milk (MT) Nonfat dry milk (MT) Sutter & anhydrous milkfat (MT) Cheese (MT) Hides and skins, incl furs (NA) Fats, oils, and greases (MT) Lard (MT) Tallow - inedible (MT) Other animal fats & oils (MT) Hides and skins, incl furs (NA) Cattle hides - whole (NO) Other furskins (NA) Wool and mohair (MT) Sausage casings (MT) Bull semen (NA) Mink pelts (NO) Other furskins (NA) Mink pelts (NO) Other furskins (NA) Mink pelts (MT) Susage casings (MT) Bull semen (NA) Misc animal prods - other (NA) Grains and feeds (MT) Neat jumiled (MT) Other wheat products (MT) Feed grains (MT) Bulg wheat (MT) Other grain products (MT) Feed grains (MT) Bulg wheat (MT) Other grain products (MT) Feed grains (MT) Bulgar wheat (MT) Other grain products (MT) Feed grain products (MT) Feed grain sond products (MT) Feed grain sond products (MT) Feed grain sond products (MT) Feed grain products (MT) Feed grain products (MT) Feed grain sond products (MT) Feed grain products (MT) Fruits - fresh (MT) Corn (MT) Funts - fresh (MT) Funts - fresh (MT) Fruits - fresh (MT) Funts - fresh (MT) Funts - fresh (MT) Funts - fresh (MT) Funts - dried (MT) Funts - d	1989	705 7287 287 287 287 287 281 6 45 666 544 101 35,994 499 444 199 12 23 204 101 466 555 10 757 177 20,118 4,646	32,747,512 5,300,1579 304,579 304,579 304,579 304,579 307,353 11,353 11,353 11,755,557 21,822 21,1473 266,634 242,732 2318,584 72,799 588,684 68,456	1990 32,658,143 5,561,226 330,149 70,532 212,255 7,687 12,909 26,765 2,098,960 1,297,010 1,268,633 28,377 127,374 268,633 238,220 317,294 88,643 756,090 70,873 142,18 454,643 251,181 13,066 69,291 26,951 81,877 289,774 31,125,598 352,028 18,282 276,3399 1,495,099 1,125,721 28,139 203,161 138,077 289,472 38,605 22,676,399 1,495,099 1,125,721 28,139 203,161 138,077 289,472 38,605 22,676,393 48,978 141,071	1989	Units 1990	\$ Thou 1989 3,391,519 552,916 44,022 7,890 32,159 1,011 116,724 36,746 33,163 38,413 8,453 62,693 8,524 1,481 134,645 2,742 1,580 1,481 1,	3,082,386 631,324 117,706 17,964 104,473 104,473 11,974 2,229 228,43 11,41,568 227,630 11,41,568 227,630 11,41,568 227,630 11,41,568 11,768 11	
Other feeds and fodders (MT) Fruits and preps, excl juices (MT) Fruits - fresh (MT) Fruits - fresh citrus (MT) Grapefruit - fresh (MT) Lemons and limes - fresh (MT) Oranges and tangerines-fresh (MT) Fruits - fresh (MT) Apples - fresh (MT) Grapes - fresh (MT) Grapes - fresh (MT) Grapes - fresh (MT) Other noncitrus - fresh (MT) Fruits - dried (MT) Prunes - dried (MT) Other dried fruits (MT)	3,390 1,773 1,7507 884 425 116 623 179 109 335 133 78 48	3,257 2,043 1,730 834 250 118 465 270 165 461 166 98 60 8	1,316,593 1,316,593 961,836 498,110 209,449 85,509 201,887 104,491 268,448 214,821 124,276 13,315	714, 054 1,665, 291 1,238, 911 473, 802 140, 327 88, 879 244, 079 146, 981 168, 981 168, 981 168, 981 168, 981 168, 981 168, 981 168, 981 18, 737	337 185 151 57 28 13 16 94 41 28 25 18 8 9	370 254 212 78 36 16 234 43 44 44 26 15 9	64,827 149,827 103,725 38,359 14,397 12,995 10,366 19,652 25,814 19,678 14,678 14,678 11,820	77, 132 205, 711 150, 449 45, 241 13, 641 13, 657 104, 479 24, 054 41, 959 38, 467 34, 525 19, 163 12, 335 3, 028	

		Januar	y-October		Oct	October			
Commodity and unit	Thousan	d units	Thousand	dollars	Thousar	d units	Thousar	nd dollars	
	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	
Total agricultural imports (NA) Noncompetitive agr. imports (NA) Bananas and plantains (MT) Coffee, including products (MT) Tea and mate' (MT) Spices (MT) Rubber & allied gums-crude (MT) Silk - raw (MT) Wool, unmanufactured-carpet (MT) Fibers, excluding cotton (MT) Essential oils (MT) Drugs - crude - natural (MT) Other noncompetitive imports (NA) Animals and animal products (NA) Animals and animal products (NA) Animals-live, exl. poultry (NO) Cattle - live (NO) Horses & mules - live (NO) Swine - live (NO) Sheep - live (NO) Other live animals (NO) Meats and prods ex poultry (MT) Beef & veal-fresh/frozen (MT) Beef & veal-fresh/frozen (MT) Pork (MT) Pork - fresh or frozen (MT) Pork - fresh or frozen (MT) Horsemeat - fr or froz (MT) Variety meats-fresh or froz(MT) Other meats & products (MA) Poultry - live (NA) Poultry and products (NA) Poultry meat (MT) Eggs (NA) Feathers & downs - crude (MT) Dairy products (NA) Milk & cream, fres/dried (MT) Butter & butterfat mixt (MT) Cheese (MT) Casein & mixtures (MT) Other dairy products (NA) Fats, oils, & greases (MT)	2,584 996 492 776 0 15 90 14 38 2,083 1,002 137 12 928 586 529 57 296 110 11 3 15 10 11 13 15 10 11 13 15 15 10 11 15 15 16 16 17 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18 18	760 2,745 1,044 619 69 90 50 11 87 29 50 2,423 1,617 971 636 578 296 197 98 115 971 14 	18, 149, 464 726, 121, 391 726, 121, 391 726, 121, 391 847, 088 114, 650 235, 085 410, 379 520, 588 113, 721 182, 133 12, 864, 672 4, 610, 885 480, 887 86, 602 480, 887 86, 603 480, 887 86, 824 295, 726 36, 824 295, 726 36, 824 295, 726 37, 484 11, 196, 981 12, 847 27, 13, 875 28, 467 13, 875 13, 875 13, 875 13, 964 13, 964 13, 964 13, 964 13, 967 13, 875 13, 964 13, 964 13, 964 14, 965 15, 67, 11 15, 077 11, 847 23, 467 24, 126 290, 725 134, 126 290, 725 137, 845 131, 645 131, 6	1990 19, 686, 686, 363, 163, 191, 258, 281, 281, 281, 281, 281, 281, 281, 28	1989	296 101 296 101 296 101 296 101 17 27 30 988 61 55 3221 100 2 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	1,823,815 515,105 78,5648 85,461 19,021 19,021 19,023 5,4393 11,934 18,445 1,308,710 418,804 53,836 67,3393 11,934 13,445 1,308,710 23,589 117,310 23,589 24,765 37,780 21,780 2	1,921,620 451,489 84,994 163,436 83,590 11,431 46,823 2,235 46,823 1,470,130 489,610 85,439 103,106 85,439 103,106 85,439 17,035 41,275 17,035 41,275 17,787 41,787 41,787 42,099 61,925 41,275 12,787 13,787 14,784 44,009 14,462 17,784 44,009 14,462 17,784 44,009 14,462 17,784 44,337 12,099 14,462 14,462 14,783 14,400 14,400 14,400 14,400 14,400 15,606 16,777 17,787 17,787 17,784 18,506 18,6	
Pineapples-canned or prep (MT) Other fruits-prep or pres (MT) Orange juice (HL) Other fruit juices (HL) Nuts and preparations (MT) Brazil nuts (MT) Cashew nuts (MT) Chestnuts (MT) Coconut meat (MT) Filberts (MT) Macademia nuts (MT) Pistachio nuts (MT) Other nuts (MT)	10,819 10,819 10,489 105 6 40 1 38 1 2 1	238 189 15,879 12,102 123 11 44 1 39 0 1 1 1 26	209,714 42,002 117,342 35,841 134,196 336,722 144,798 191,924 345,382 233,818 271,414 14,352 176,447 20,535 30,564 1,327 18,861 2,873 24,456	144,346 205,207 588,610 274,889 297,096 15,839 179,686 2,530 31,264 14,519 3,802 48,833	1,526 1,526 1,523 14 1,50 00 00 2	22 21 1,331 1,155 18 1 5 0 0 0	11,837 25,269 42,987 19,448 33,637 2,547 19,166 1,843 4,071 77 2,577 2,579 2,948	23,522 1,916 3,963	

Table 2--U.S. agricultural imports: Quantity and value by commodity - continued

	January-October				October				
Commodity and unit	Thousand	Tunits	Thousand	dollars	Thousan	d units	Thousand	dollars	
İ	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	1989	1990	
Vegetables and preparations (NA) Vegetables-fresh or frozen (MT) Tomatoes (MT) Asparagus (MT) Beans (MT) Carrots (MT) Carrots (MT) Egplant (MT) Egplant (MT) Garlic (MT) Lettuce (MT) Onions (MT) Peas, including chickpeas (MT) Peppers (MT) Squash (MT) Other vegs-fresh or froz (MT) Vegetables-prep or preserv (NA) Olives - prep or preserv (NA) Olives - prepared (MT) Antichokes - prepared (MT) Asparagus - prepared (MT) Asparagus - prepared (MT) Tomatoes inc paste & sauce(MT) Waterchestnuts (MT) Beans and peas, dried (MT) Oth vegetables-prep/pres (NA) Sugar and related products (NA) Sugar cane and beet (MT) Confectionery products (MT) Other sugar & rel prods (MT) Spices (MT) Tobacco - unmanufactured (MT) Tobacco - filler (MT) Tobacco - scrap (MT) Other sugar & rel prods (MT) Spices (MT) Tobacco - scrap (MT) Other seds & soilnuts (MT) Other beverages (HL) Other beverages (HL) Oilseeds and products (MT) Oilseeds and meal (MT) Castor oil (MT) Other oilseeds & oilnuts (MT) Other oils and waxes-veg. (MT) Oilcake and meal (MT) Cotton (inters (MT) Seds - field and garden (MT) Cotton (inters (MT) Selected non-agric. imports (NA) Nursery stock, bulbs, etc. (NA) Other vegetable products (MT) Fish and shellfish(MT) Fish and s	1,574 1,574 22,40 149 144 15 1422 288 1222 288 1222 288 151 152 27 58 1,365 5,214 8,761 137 131 11,659 24,241 8,761 137 131 11,659 24,241 8,761 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 137 131 11,559 24,241 8,761 137 137 144 299 11 139 126 244 299 11 139 126 244 299 11 139 126 244 299 11 139 127 138 144 21 33 41 1,205	1,520 329 17 16 422 133 112 18 153 33 116 223 356 356 356 356 356 356 356 35	1,719,305 819,874 208,622 18,999 9,06,636 7,102 12,832 12,832 13,499 94,579 27,726 193,586 899,430 114,729 123,657 24,238 30,361 140,885 31,601 411,747 811,897 508,024 49,622 151,112 103,139 31,017 468,531 452,389 114,744,880 139,581 1,498,622 151,526 17,26,503 744,880 139,587 48,425 58,920 1552,555 158,764 32,242 556,995 158,764 1,498,918 610,578 214,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,622 355,629 124,880 4,337,849 44,331 1,408,465 202,586 2,148,581 964,537 964,536	1,931,586 1,045,223 361,916 24,183 8,925 14,582 17,023 14,582 17,023 138,012 201,304 88,651 19,585 34,512 201,304 886,651 197,751 117,768 117,768 117,768 117,768 117,768 117,768 117,768 117,768 117,768 117,769 117,768 117,	1139 1182011054425231 740201127 973430241551106646460240114 5 988540149831881205 11,384834881205 11,588540149831881205 11,588540149831881205	9531116301045336230 7300102355 8919921164201144 4 201135 89199211642202 3884462202 3884622002 3884622002 3884622002 38846200000000000000000000000000000000000	123 123 124 125 123 123 123 123 123 123 123 123 123 123	139, 256 47, 956 1, 960 1,	

^{1/} Excludes quantity data on anhydrous ammonia in 1989/90. All other statistics are preliminary. NA = Not available. Zeroes in quantity columns represent none or less than 500 units.

Table 3--U.S. agricultural trade summary (\$ Million)

Table 5--U.S. agricultural exports (\$ Million)

Item	Aug	Sept	Oct	Year to date	Chg. fm. prev. yr.	Commodity group	Aug	Sept	Oct	Year to date	Change from prev. year
					Percent						Percent
						Total	2,945	2,723	3,082	32,658	
Agricultural exports	2,945 1,875	2,723	3,082	32,658	-0.3	Live animals	29	50	128	415	11.3
Imports (c.i.f.)	1,875	1,834	1,989 1,922	20,583	2.4	Meat & preps	281	263	298	2,661 372	11.6
Imports (Customs val.)	1,726	1,728	1,922	19,011	4.7	Dairy prod & eggs	281 28 35	37	30	372	-14.3
						Animal fats	35	35	23	352	-18.1
Trade Balance:						Hides & skins	145	131	124	1,495	4.1
Exports minus cif						Wheat	326	340	268	3,416	-34.3
imports	1,070	889	1,093	12,075	-3.1	Rice	45	65	85	651	-18.5
Exports minus Customs	-		-	-		Corn	465	315	301	5,195 855	3.4
valued imports	1,219	995	1,161	13,647	-5.4	Other feed grains	92	58	80	855	-14.2
			-	•		Animal feeds	238	166	229	2,377	-6.0
Preliminary data.						Soybeans	181	182	194	2,807 715	-8.5
						Vegetable oils	66	70	67	715	-5.8
						Horticult. prods.	510	565	722	5,551	28.7
						Cotton & linters	194	146	138	2,244 1,067	22.5
						Tobacco, unmfg.	62	74	106	1,067	3.2

Table 4--Major U.S. agricultural export markets, FY 1989-1990

		790	198	39		
Market	Exports	Rank	Exports	Rank		
		\$ Bil	lion	on		
Japan Canada 1/ USSR South Korea Mexico Taiwan Netherlands 2/ West Germany Spain China Egypt United Kingdom Italy Hong Kong Saudi Arabia	8,106 3,716 2,989 2,703 2,666 1,818 1,637 1,096 1,096 761 761 761 764 685	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15	8,148 2,179 3,299 2,453 2,755 1,594 1,847 918 875 1,496 609 575 482	1 5 2 4 3 7 6 10 11 8 9 13 14 17 19		

Exports to Canada in 1989 were substantially underreported. Not adjusted for transhipments.

Tobacco, unmfg. Preliminary data.

Table 6--U.S. agricultural imports (\$ Million, Customs value)

Commodity group	Aug	Sept	Oct	Year to date	Change from prev. year
Total Live animals Meat & preps. Dairy prod, eggs Grains & feeds Fruits & nuts Vegetables Vegetable oils Wine Malt beverages Coffee Cocoa Rubber, natural Sugar-cane & beet Tobacco, unmfg. Seeds, flowers	1,726 58 263 83 99 243 119 69 79 90 128 96 53 44 54	1,728 85 241 71 100 262 112 54 70 75 122 78 89 60 56	1,922 105 262 76 125 187 71 139 71 163 84 47 58 49 61	19,011 904 2,453 779 964 2,242 1,932 589 711 780 1,638 911 574 669 508	Percent 4.7 44.0 16.7 11.1 -2.7 23.7 12.3 6.7 -1.8 7.3 -22.8 7.6 -31.7 8.3 0.4

Preliminary data.

This report is available through USDA's Computerized Information Delivery Service (CIDS) three working days following release of the Commerce Department's monthly U.S. merchandise trade data. Call Russell T. Forte, Office of Information, 202-447-5505.

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